



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

November 15, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: LME Directors

FROM: Mike Moseley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Moseley".

**RE: Mental Health, Developmental Disability and Substance Abuse Related
Admissions in Community Emergency Departments, 4th Quarter, SFY 2006-07
and 1st Quarter, SFY 2007-08**

It is my pleasure to present to you the Division's first quarterly Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Related Admissions in Community Emergency Departments Report, 2007. The present report is in response to G.S. 122C-147.1. Section 10.49(r) "The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop a system for reporting to LMEs aggregate information regarding all visits to community hospital emergency departments due to a mental illness, a developmental disability, or a substance abuse disorder. The report shall be submitted on a quarterly basis beginning with the 2007-2008 fiscal years." The report covers information for two quarters, 4th quarter, SFY 2007 and 1st quarter, SFY 2008.

The data presented in this report have been collected through the North Carolina Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT). The system was created by the North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) in 2004 to address the need for early detection and timely public health surveillance in North Carolina using a variety of secondary data sources. These secondary sources include information from community emergency departments, the Carolinas Poison Center, the Pre-hospital Medical Information System (PreMIS), and the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine Laboratories. The information is shared with the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. There are currently 105 hospitals reporting information to the NC DETECT data system. This list is provided in the Appendix A of the report.

The data presented in the report showcase the volume of individuals with a mental health or substance abuse diagnosis seeking care from an emergency department of a community hospital. The information is presented by age and gender at the state level. Admission counts and rates of total mental health and substance abuse admissions are presented at the LME level. While information is available through NC DETECT on admissions for consumers with a developmental disability diagnosis, the counts were too small to be presented in this report.



We hope that you will find this new report insightful and useful in planning future activities. If you have any questions on the data presented in this report, please send them via electronic mail to ContactDMHQuality@ncmail.net

cc: Secretary Dempsey Benton
Dan Stewart
Executive Leadership Team
Management Leadership Team
State Facility Directors
Yvonne Copeland
Patrice Roesler
MH Commission Chair
The Coalition Chair
SCFAC Chair
Sharnese Ransome
Kory Goldsmith
Andrea Poole
Kaye Holder
Debbie Crane
Mark Van Sciver
Brad Deen

